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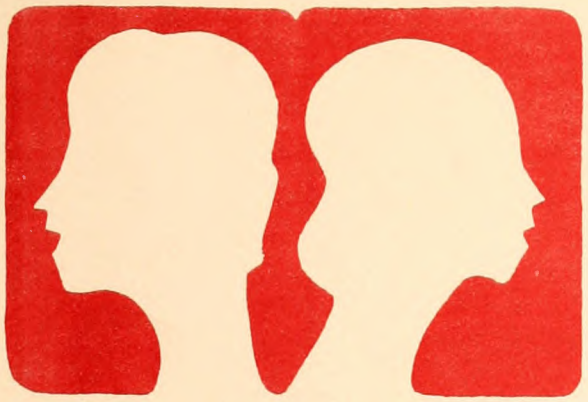

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MARRIAGES AND DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGES

NORTH CAROLINA

1965-1975

Cecile S. Alston
Clara K. Tessenear

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PREFACE

This report was prepared and produced by the Public Health Statistics Branch, Mr. Charles J. Rothwell, Head. The report, which is a basic analysis of North Carolina marriages and divorces, serves as a supplement to the vital statistics annual reports which provide population, natality and mortality data.

The authors of this report are indebted to Bob Overby, Statistical Research Assistant, for his work with the computerized data and to Rhonda K. Johnson, Statistical Aide, for quality control. Also, we thank Ed Warren and Tom Johnson of the Vital Records Branch for their contributions to the narrative. We especially thank Brenda Craig, Statistical Typist, for the typing of the manuscript.

1. INTRODUCTION

Recent writers on the subject of marriage and divorce have adopted the terminology "family formation and dissolution." This indicator takes into account not only marriages and divorces but dissolutions of families caused by deaths of husbands and wives. Family formation (marriage) and family dissolution (divorce or death) are paramount components in the evolution of our society. Changes in the rate of family formation and dissolution typify the stability of our way of life. Data from our marriage, divorce and death certificates enable us to present statistically and graphically many of the demographic characteristics of the persons involved in these events. A study of these data will allow us to gain insight into factors relating to an increase or decrease in family formation and, prospectively, may assist us in developing programs to reduce the rising number of broken homes.

This report presents statistical data pertaining to marriages and family dissolutions occurring in North Carolina during 1975 with trend analyses for 1965-1975. These statistics were compiled from certificates of marriage and a monthly listing of divorces as shown in Appendix A. An attempt has been made to include data at the national level for comparison. Text tables highlight the findings of our study while the tables of Appendix B provide relevant detail.

There is no exchange of nonresident data between North Carolina and other states; hence, our statistics reflect marriages occurring in the State to residents and nonresidents alike and do not reflect marriages of North

Carolina residents who marry outside the State. Data for divorces are also by place of occurrence. In this State, a person may not sue for divorce unless he is a resident of the State; therefore, for divorce statistics we know at least one partner resided in North Carolina.

Crude rates per 1,000 total population are used in this report for describing general trends and comparing data. Although this measure includes ineligible population, it can serve as a useful indicator for trend analyses.

According to data from the National Center for Health Statistics, only eight of the 50 states had lower marriage rates than North Carolina in 1974. Similar data for divorces show that fifteen states had lower rates. Sections 3 and 4 highlight the North Carolina experience during the past eleven years.

2. MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE REGISTRATION

Marriage Registration

In 1961 the General Assembly of North Carolina passed legislation providing for the central registration of marriages in this State. The law (G.S. 130-49) became effective January 1, 1962.

Necessary forms are furnished the county registers of deeds by the Department of Human Resources. Copies of the marriage certificates must be forwarded to the Department of Human Resources by the 15th of the month following marriage. The register of deeds files the original marriage certificate.

Marriage registration was tested for completeness in 1963. It was found that more than 99 percent of performed ceremonies terminated in properly recorded certificates of marriage.

Persons planning to be married in North Carolina must obtain a license from the register of deeds in the county in which the marriage ceremony is to be performed. Applications for a marriage license are considered to be lawful for qualified unmarried persons of eighteen years or older. Sixteen- and seventeen-year-olds may marry under a special license with the written consent of a parent or guardian. With all applications for marriage licenses, a report of a physical examination signed by a licensed physician must be presented. This report, executed within thirty days from the date of presentation, must show that the applicant has no evidence of venereal disease or tuberculosis in the infectious or communicable stage and that the

applicant is mentally competent. Attached to the physician's statement must be a report from an approved laboratory showing that a serologic test for syphilis has been made.

In the State of North Carolina, the register of deeds is the only official authorized to issue marriage licenses. There is no waiting period in this State.

The signatures of witnesses are obtained at the time of the marriage ceremony. The officiant enters the date and place of marriage and his signature. He returns the certificate to the register of deeds of the county which issued the license. See Appendix A for a copy of the application, license and certificate of marriage.

Divorce and Annulment Registration

The North Carolina General Assembly enacted legislation (G.S. 130-48) in 1957 such that clerks of court must file reports of divorces and annulments with the Department of Human Resources. This law became effective January 1, 1958. Divorce is used to mean absolute divorces and annulments of marriage. Each clerk of court is responsible for preparing a monthly listing of divorces on Form VS70 (Appendix A) and submitting this report to the Department of Human Resources by the 15th of each month for decrees granted the previous month. Information necessary to complete this report is furnished the clerk of court by either the divorced parties or their legal representative.

Very limited information is obtained on the monthly report of divorces. These statistics include type of court, the names of the parties, residence of each, the type and date of decree, the grounds for divorce, race of plaintiff and the number of minor children.

The legal dissolution of marriage in North Carolina is initiated by the plaintiff who states in the complaint that the complainant or defendant has been a resident of North Carolina for at least six months.

There are six legal grounds for divorce: adultery, impotency, pregnancy of wife prior to marriage without knowledge of husband who was not the father of the child, one-year separation, crime against nature, and insanity.

Completeness of divorce registration has not been tested in North Carolina.

3. MARRIAGES

Trends

The first year for which statewide marriage data were available in this State was 1962 when 33,968 marriages resulted in a crude rate of 7.3 per 1,000 population. By 1965 the rate had risen to 8.4, followed by a gradual increase in numbers and rates through 1969 when a rate of 9.7 was recorded. This was followed by a decline in rate to 9.5 in 1970 and 1971. The marriage rate dropped to 9.3 in 1972 and has continued to decline. By 1975 the marriage rate was 7.8 per 1,000 population.

TABLE 3-1

MARRIAGES:

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES, 1965-1975

Year	North Carolina		United States
	Marriages	Marriage Rate	Marriage Rate
1965	40,667	8.4	9.3
1966	43,482	8.9	9.5
1967	45,145	9.1	9.7
1968	47,989	9.6	10.4
1969	49,177	9.7	10.6
1970	48,291	9.5	10.6
1971	48,971	9.5	10.6
1972	48,766	9.3	11.0
1973	46,951	8.8	10.9
1974	45,015	8.4	10.5
1975	42,310	7.8	10.0*

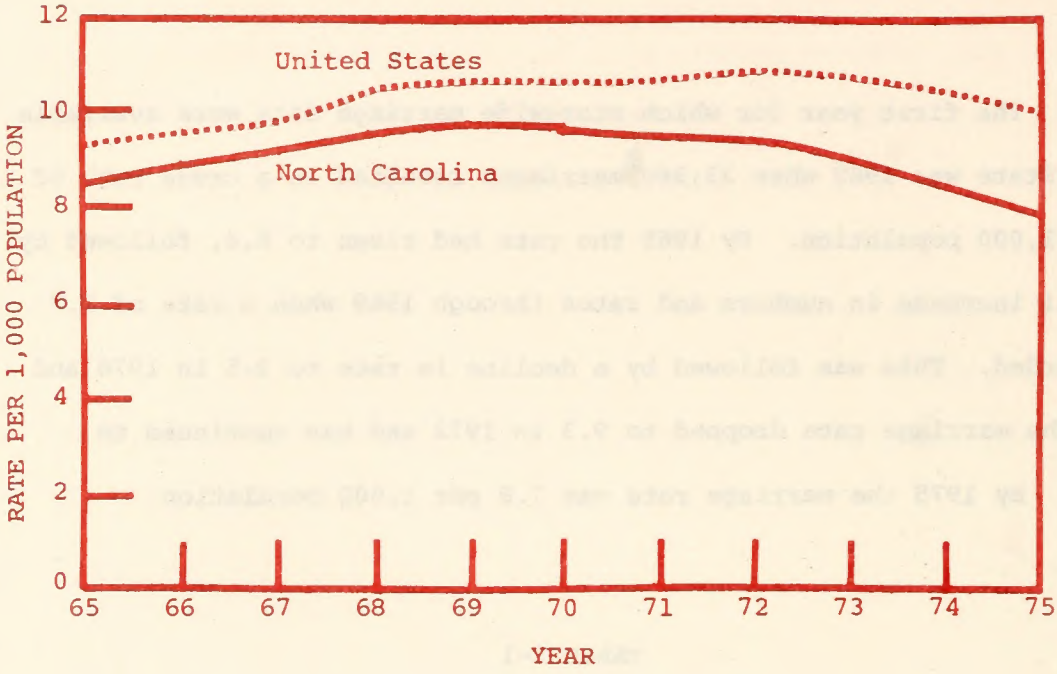
NOTE: Rates are per 1,000 estimated population.

*Provisional data.

FIGURE 3-1

MARRIAGE RATES:

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES, 1965-1975



The national trend in marriages showed an increasing number each year between 1965 and 1973. Similarly, the rate increased 18 percent from 1965 to 1972, but declined slightly in 1973 for the first time in 15 years. The rate was 10.9, down slightly from the 1972 rate of 11.0.

In 1974 both the number and rate of marriages declined in the United States. The rate declined 3.7 percent from 10.9 in 1973 to 10.5 per 1,000 population in 1974. Provisional data for 1975 show a continuing decline with a rate of 10.0 per 1,000 population. This represents a decline of over 4 percent from 10.5 in 1974, and is the lowest rate since 1967. However, the number of marriages actually increased in eight states located mostly in the West. In Alaska the number increased 10 percent.

Median Age at Marriage

The median ages of brides and grooms marrying in North Carolina during 1975 were 21.8 and 23.8 years respectively. The median age was higher for both men and women than it was in the mid-sixties, but the sex difference is decreasing. The median age for men has risen by one year and that for women by more than one and one-half years. In 1965, the median ages for brides and grooms in North Carolina were 20.1 and 22.8 years respectively.

In 1975, the median age at first marriage was 20.2 years for brides and 22.1 years for grooms. While the median age for brides at first marriage increased by over one-half year since 1965, that for grooms was almost unchanged over the time period. The median age at remarriage for both bride and groom moved steadily downward over the period. It dropped 3.2 years for brides to 30.2 years of age and decreased 3.8 years for grooms to 34.1 years of age.

TABLE 3-2

MEDIAN AGE AT MARRIAGE:

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES, 1965-1975

	North Carolina		United States	
Year	Bride	Groom	Bride	Groom
1965	20.1	22.8	21.4	23.6
1966	20.0	22.7	21.5	23.8
1967	20.4	22.7	21.4	23.8
1968	20.6	22.8	21.5	23.6
1969	20.6	22.7	21.6	23.5
1970	20.7	22.8	21.7	23.6
1971	20.6	22.8	21.7	23.7
1972	20.8	23.0	21.7	23.8
1973	21.4	23.4	21.9	24.1
1974	21.6	23.6	22.0	24.2
1975	21.8	23.8	N/A	N/A

N/A - not available.

Education

The marriage certificates for 1975 reflect a decrease in educational level of both brides and grooms compared to 1968 data. The marriage certificate did not include an item on education until 1968.

Table 3-3 shows the educational level of bride and groom by marriage order. These statistics reveal that first marriages involve brides and grooms with some college education more often than do remarriages. This is true for both 1968 and 1975. For total marriages occurring in 1975 approximately one-third of both brides and grooms had attended college compared to slightly less than one-half in 1968.

TABLE 3-3

EDUCATION OF BRIDE AND GROOM BY MARRIAGE ORDER:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1968 AND 1975

	1968					
	Marriage Order					
	Bride			Groom		
Education	First Marriage	Remarriage	Total	First Marriage	Remarriage	Total
None or Elementary						
Number	1,082	976	2,058	1,928	1,289	3,217
Percent	2.7	11.9	4.3	4.8	16.4	6.7
High School						
Number	18,811	3,927	22,738	17,834	3,163	20,997
Percent	47.3	48.0	47.4	44.4	40.2	43.8
College						
Number	19,913	3,280	23,193	20,365	3,410	23,775
Percent	50.0	40.1	48.3	50.8	43.4	49.5
Not Stated						
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total						
Number	39,806	8,183	47,989	40,127	7,862	47,989
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

TABLE 3-3 (CONTINUED)

Education	1975 Marriage Order: Bride: First Marriage	Bride: Remarriage	Bride: Total	Groom: First Marriage	Groom: Remarriage	Groom: Total
None or Elementary						
Number	770	1,212	1,982	1,183	1,797	2,980
Percent	2.5	10.1	4.7	3.9	14.8	7.0
High School						
Number	18,812	7,836	26,648	18,204	6,531	24,735
Percent	62.1	65.2	63.0	60.3	53.8	58.5
College						
Number	10,560	2,796	13,356	10,643	3,696	14,339
Percent	34.9	23.3	31.6	35.3	30.4	33.9
Not Stated						
Number	156	168	324	137	119	256
Percent	0.5	1.4	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.6
Total						
Number	30,298	12,012	42,310	30,167	12,143	42,310
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Also, among total marriages in 1975, the percent of grooms that had not attended high school was 7.0; for brides, it was 4.7.

In comparing education of bride with education of groom for 1975, (Table 6, Appendix B), it is noted that in 9,389 marriages (22.2 percent), both had attended college. For all marriages, only 2.0 percent of both brides and grooms had not attended high school. Brides with some college education married grooms who had not attended high school in 0.4 percent of total marriages. Grooms with some college education married brides who had not attended high school in only 0.2 percent of all marriages.

First Marriage and Remarriage

The distribution of marriages according to previous marital status of bride and groom is shown in the table below. The term "single" means that the party was not previously married.

Marriages between single men and single women represented 62.0 percent of all marriages during 1975. This represents a decline since 1965, when 78.5 percent of all marriages involved two previously unmarried persons. Over one-third of all marriages in North Carolina during 1975 involved at least one divorced partner compared to only 18 percent during the mid-sixties. Divorced bride and divorced groom accounted for more than thirteen percent of all 1975 marriages. Widows and widowers were involved in only one out of 14 marriages.

TABLE 3-4

PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS OF BRIDE AND GROOM:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1965 AND 1975

Previous Marital Status of Bride & Groom	1965		1975	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	40,452	100.0	42,310	100.0
Single Bride, Single Groom	31,763	78.5	26,229	62.0
Single Bride, Divorced Groom	1,962	4.9	3,813	9.0
Single Bride, Widowed Groom	299	0.7	252	0.6
Divorced Bride, Single Groom	2,122	5.2	3,578	8.5
Divorced Bride, Divorced Groom	2,206	5.5	5,659	13.4
Divorced Bride, Widowed Groom	334	0.8	579	1.4
Widowed Bride, Single Groom	428	1.1	357	0.8
Widowed Bride, Divorced Groom	556	1.4	846	2.0
Widowed Bride, Widowed Groom	782	1.9	980	2.3

NOTE: This table excludes 215 marriages in 1965 with previous marital status of either bride or groom not stated.

Interracial Marriages

An area of growing interest in marriage statistics is interracial marriage, especially Black-White marriages.

The data available for 1975 show 1 percent of the marriages to be between Black-White, White-Other, or Black-Other races. In this report, the category "other" races includes all races and national origins except White and Black, e.g., Japanese, Chinese, Fillipinos, American Indians, Hawaiians, and Eskimos. Interracial marriages in the "other" category have not been separately identified from marriages between partners of the same "other" race and are not included in the interracial marriages.

In marriages between White and "other races" the groom was more of often the White partner while in Black-White marriages it was more often a White woman who married a Black man. The 1975 crosstabulation of race of bride by race of groom was as follows:

TABLE 3-5
NUMBER OF MARRIAGES BY RACE:
NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Race of Groom	Race of Bride		
	White	Black	Other
White	34,675	42	127
Black	125	7,070	20
Other	101	8	142

A total of 423 interracial marriages were performed in North Carolina during 1975. Of this number 39.5 percent were Black-White marriages with the bride being the White partner in three-fourths of these.

The number and percentage of interracial marriages by race combination are:

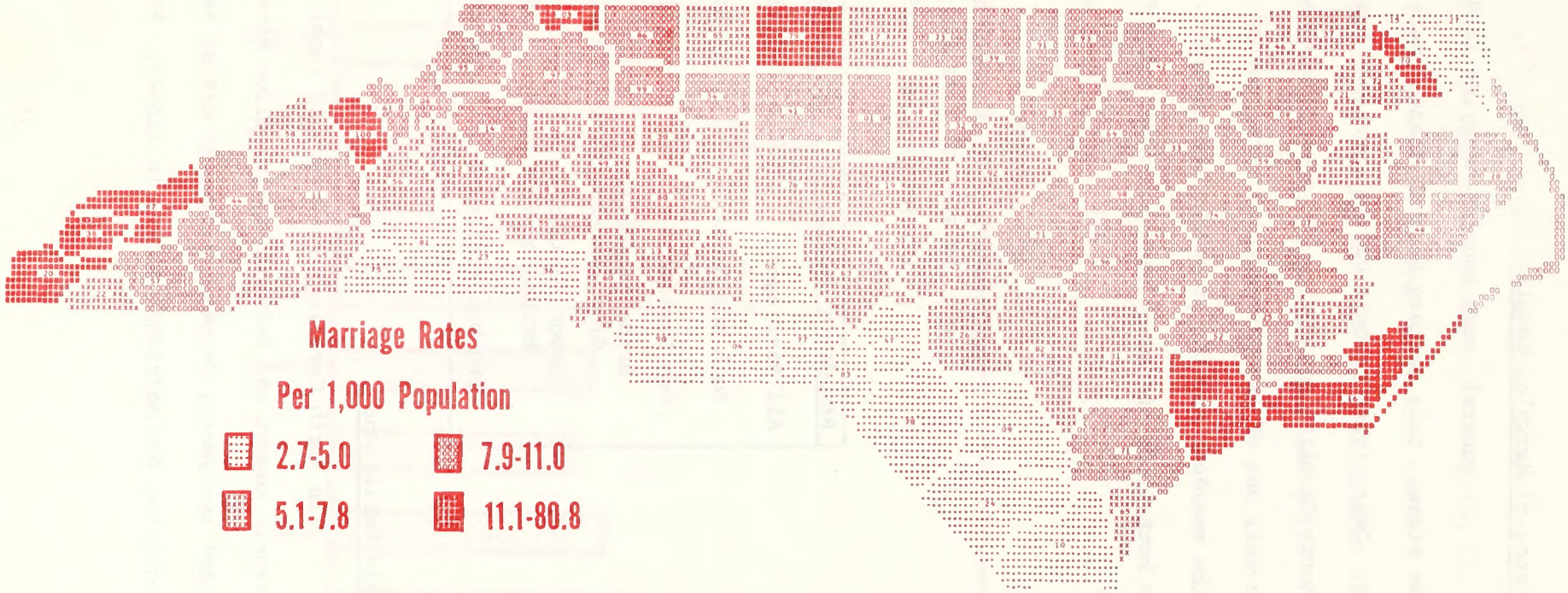
TABLE 3-6
DISTRIBUTION OF MIXED MARRIAGES:
NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Interracial Groups	Number	Percent
Black-White	167	39.5
Black-Other	28	6.6
White-Other	228	53.9
Total	423	100.0

Georgraphic Variations

When variation from county to county is considered, it should be remembered that the figures in Table 1 (Appendix B) apply to the county of occurrence of the marriage. Since certain counties lie at strategic points of entry into North Carolina, it would be likely that higher marriage rates would occur in those places. This is apparent for several border counties of the State in 1975. Exceptionally high rates occurred in Pasquotank (80.8), Alleghany (66.2), Swain (22.5), and Yancey (21.5) counties. Counties with low rates are found in the southeastern part of the State. They are Robeson (2.7), Hoke (3.3), Scotland (3.4), and Anson (3.7) (see Figure 3-2 and Appendix C).

FIGURE 3-2
MARRIAGE RATES FOR COUNTIES: NORTH CAROLINA, 1975



Residence of Marrying Couples

In general, most couples marrying in North Carolina are residents of the State. This pattern has not changed markedly over the last eleven years. Over eighty percent of the marriages that occurred in 1975 involved two North Carolina residents. In over three-quarters of the 3,368 marriages where only one of the marriage partners resided in North Carolina, the bride was the resident and the groom the non-resident. There were 4,493 marriages where both bride and groom were non-residents of the State.

TABLE 3-7

RESIDENCE STATUS OF BRIDE AND GROOM AT TIME OF MARRIAGE:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

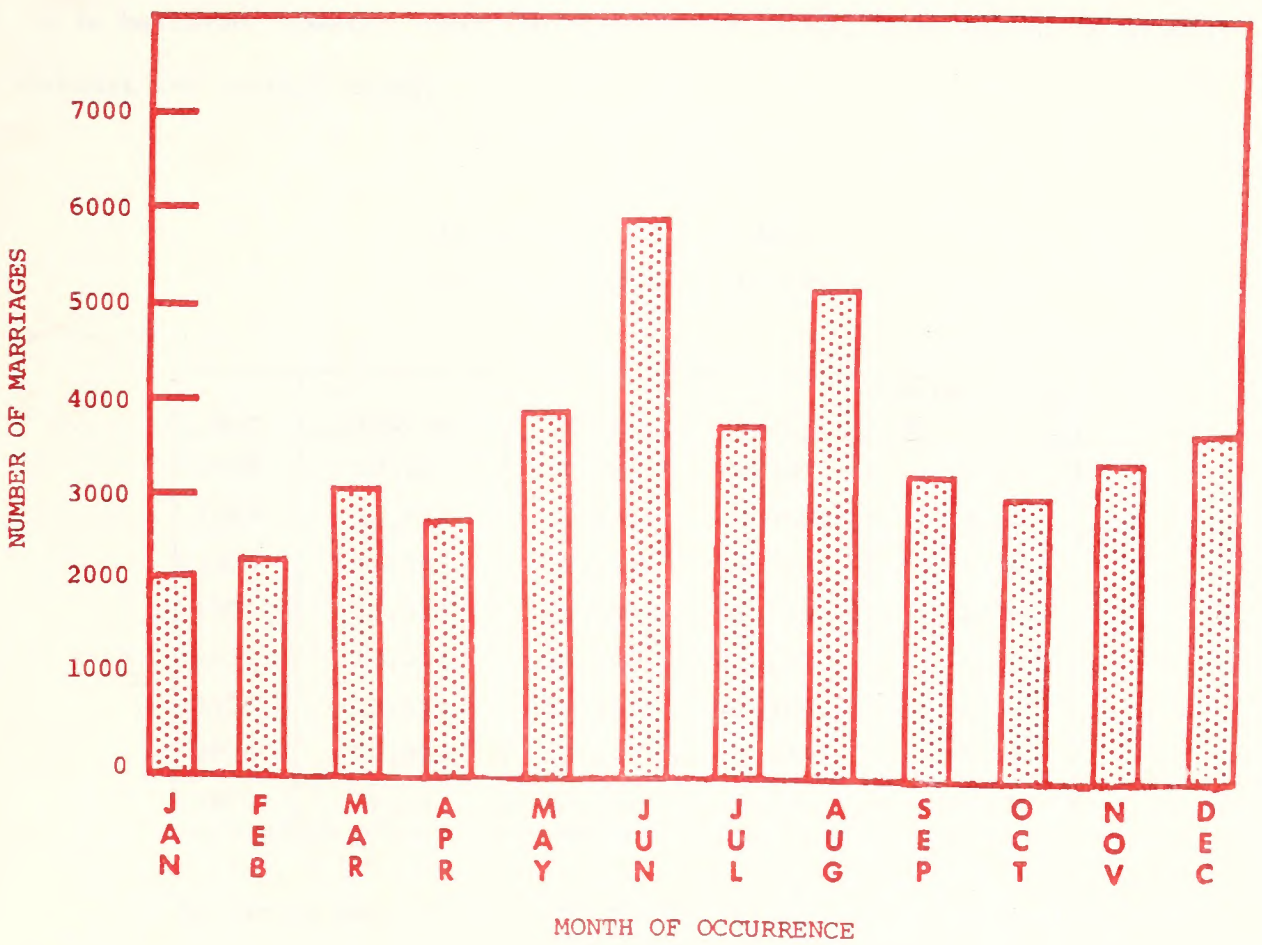
Residence Status	Number	Percent
All Marriages	42,310	100.0
Both Residents	34,449	81.4
One Resident	3,368	8.0
Bride Resident-Groom Non-Resident	2,613	6.2
Groom Resident-Bride Non-Resident	755	1.8
Both Non-Residents	4,493	10.6

Monthly Variations

In North Carolina, June usually ranks as the favorite month for marriage. August and July generally follow closely; however, for three of the last ten years, December ranked in either second or third place. The seasonal low for marriages occurs in January, February and March.

According to provisional counts from the National Center for Health Statistics, June and August are the favored months to marry in the United States. In 1974, August replaced June as the number one month. Month of marriage varies slightly among the various age groups; younger persons prefer June while older couples often choose December and july.

FIGURE 3-3
MARRIAGES BY MONTH OF OCCURRENCE:
NORTH CAROLINA, 1975



4. DISSOLUTIONS

Trends

Current statistics indicate that although death is still the major cause for dissolutions of marriages, it is rapidly giving way to divorce. The table below lists the total number of marriages dissolved in North Carolina for each of the years 1968 through 1975 (comparable death data for years prior to 1968 are not available). There is some inconsistency in these totals since deaths are recorded by residence and divorces by occurrence. It is believed, however, that the discrepancy is not large enough to greatly distort the overall trend.

TABLE 4-1

DISSOLUTIONS OF MARRIAGES:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1968-1975

Year	Divorces	Deaths	Total	Percent Due to Divorce
1968	12,461	22,026	34,487	36.1
1969	12,872	22,497	35,369	36.4
1970	13,702	22,522	36,224	37.8
1971	15,530	22,699	38,229	40.6
1972	17,277	23,904	41,181	42.0
1973	18,532	23,957	42,489	43.6
1974	20,049	23,197	43,246	46.4
1975	22,107	23,100	45,207	48.9

As can be derived from the table, the proportion of dissolutions due to divorce has risen 35 percent during the period 1968 thru 1975. The number of divorces and annulments granted in North Carolina in 1975 was 22,107 a record high. This was an increase of 10 percent over the total for 1974,

61 percent over that for 1970 and 98 percent over that for 1965. The North Carolina rate per 1,000 population was 4.1 in 1975 compared to 2.3 in 1965 (Table 4-2 and Figure 4-1). The United States as a whole has experienced similar trends in divorce with rates being consistently higher than those for North Carolina.

Since two persons are involved in each divorce case, 44,214 North Carolinians were divorced in 1975--8.1 persons per 1,000 total population. Since couples divorced in 1975 had 23,147 minor children, at least 67,361 persons were intimately involved in divorce cases, or 12.4 persons per 1,000 total population.

During 1975, a total of 23,100 North Carolina families were broken by death. Adding these figures to the 22,107 families broken by divorce gives a total of 45,207 families broken during the year by death and judicial decree.

TABLE 4-2

DIVORCES:

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES, 1965-1975

	North Carolina		United States
Year	Divorces	Divorce Rate	Divorce Rate
1965	11,160	2.3	2.5
1966	11,414	2.3	2.5
1967	11,983	2.4	2.6
1968	12,461	2.5	2.9
1969	12,872	2.6	3.2
1970	13,702	2.7	3.5
1971	15,350	3.0	3.7
1972	17,277	3.3	4.1
1973	18,532	3.5	4.4
1974	20,049	3.7	4.6
1975	22,107	4.1	4.8*

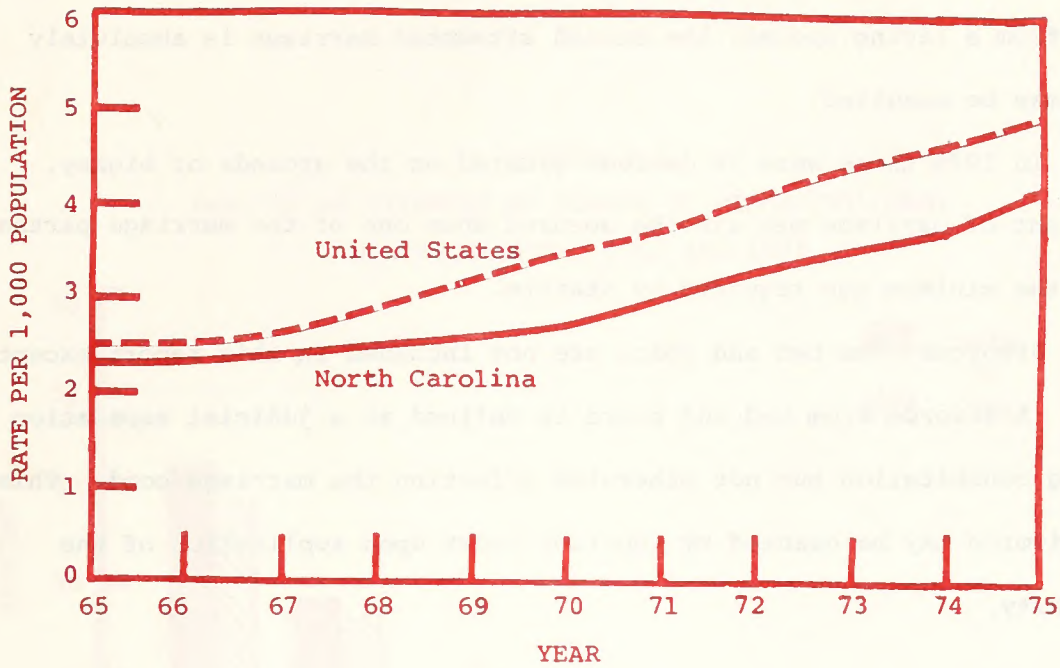
NOTE: Rates are per 1,000 population.

*Provisional data.

FIGURE 4-1

DIVORCE RATES:

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES, 1965-1975



Legal Grounds

In 1975, ninety-nine percent of all divorces granted in the State were awarded on the basis of a one-year separation. The true reason or cause of a divorce often remains unknown since the legal grounds and the cause do not coincide. Generally, divorces are filed on grounds which will cause the least unpleasant attention.

Among the 22,107 divorces and annulments obtained in 1975, only 39 or 0.2 percent were granted on the grounds of adultery. Figures for 1965 show that 161 or 1.4 percent were granted on these grounds.

Annulments of marriages are granted on grounds different from those of absolute divorce. Bigamy is one of the grounds for annulment; where a person attempts to marry again when no valid divorce has been obtained from a living spouse, the second attempted marriage is absolutely void and may be annulled.

In 1975 there were 18 decrees granted on the grounds of bigamy. An annulment of marriage may also be secured when one of the marriage partners is under the minimum age required by statute.

Divorces from bed and board are not included in this report except for 1965. A divorce from bed and board is defined as a judicial separation suspending cohabitation but not otherwise affecting the marriage bond. This type of divorce may be granted by superior court upon application of the injured party.

Children Involved in Divorce

Approximately 23,147 children under 18 years of age were involved in divorce during 1975 in North Carolina. The 1975 figure is nearly 80 percent higher than that for 10 years earlier (12,929 in 1965). In spite of the pronounced numerical increase, the average number of children per divorce declined, 1.05 in 1975 compared to 1.16 in 1965.

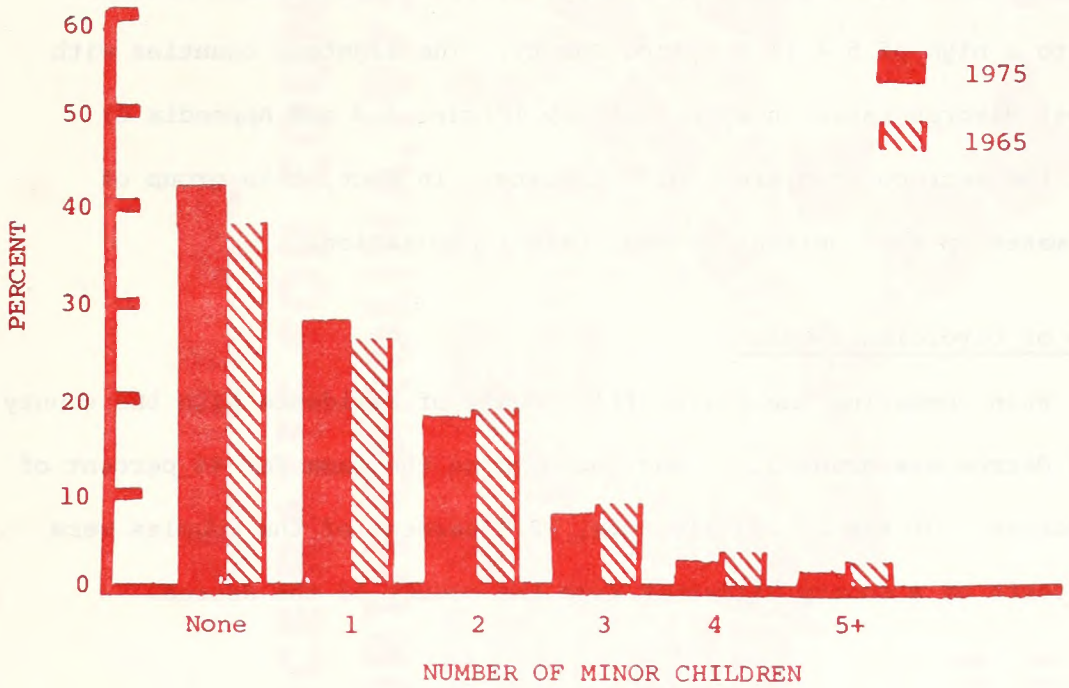
In 1975, 42 percent of divorcing couples had no children under 18 years of age; 27 percent had one child; 18 percent had two children; and 13 percent had three children or more. These figures and comparable data for 1965 are depicted in Figure 4-2.

Nationally, the estimated average number of children per divorce was 1.12 in 1974 and 1.32 in 1965. Final divorce data for 1974 reveals that more than 1 million children were affected by divorce in the United States.

FIGURE 4-2

PERCENT OF DIVORCES BY NUMBER OF MINOR CHILDREN:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1965 AND 1975



Race

On the monthly report form used in North Carolina, it is not specified to which partner the item "race" refers. We have reason to believe it is the race of the plaintiff since the plaintiff is the initiator and usually appears when the decree is granted. Therefore, race statistics in this report may be taken as representative of the plaintiff.

In North Carolina during 1975, eighty-two percent of the decrees were granted to whites, 15.9 percent to blacks, and 0.5 percent to American Indians. Comparable figures for 1965 show 83.1 percent white, 15.6 percent black and 0.3 percent American Indian.

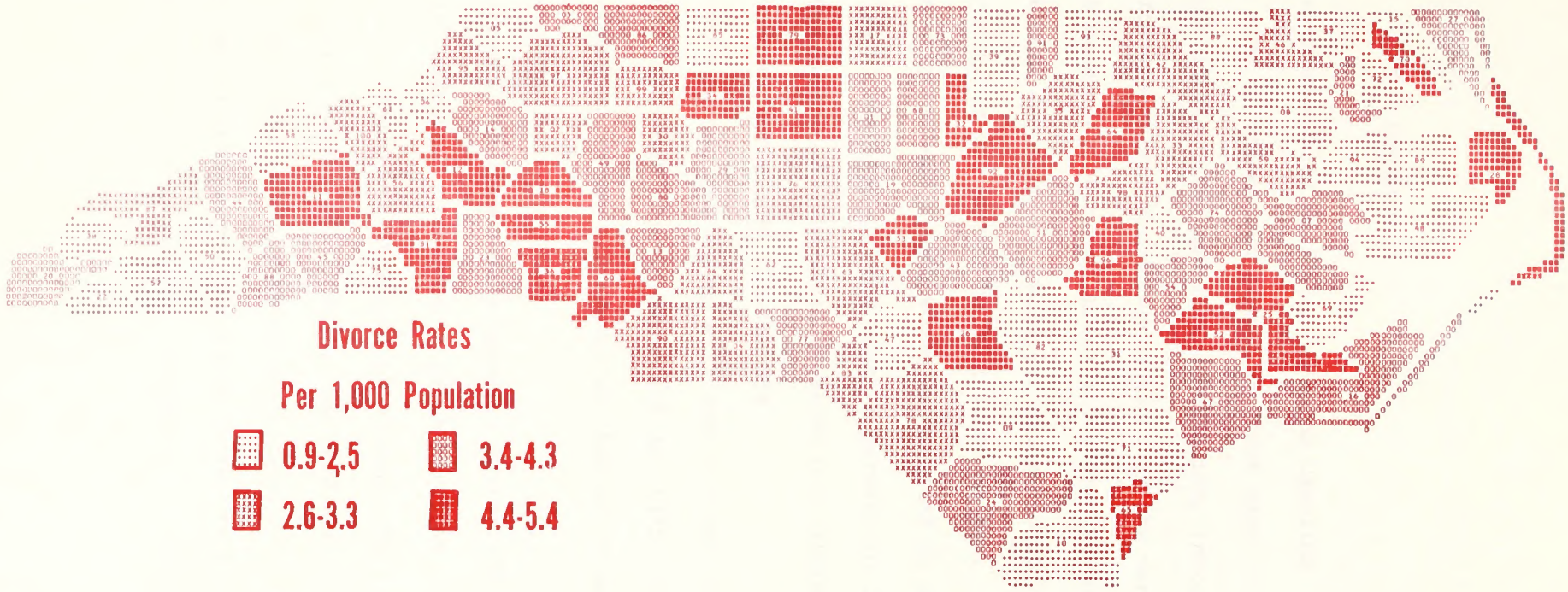
Geographic Variations

The divorce rate per 1,000 population varied considerably among counties. In 1975 rates ranged from a low of 0.9 in Camden and Mitchell counties to a high of 5.4 in Guilford County. The eighteen counties with the highest divorce rates shown on the map (Figure 4-3 and Appendix C) represent the metropolitan areas of the State. In fact, this group of counties makes up 45.5 percent of the State's population.

Residence of Divorcing Couples

When comparing the plaintiff's county of residence with the county where the decree was granted, it was found to be the same for 44 percent of total divorces. Of the 22,107 divorces, 13.4 percent of the couples were both residents of a county different from the county of the decree.

FIGURE 4-3
DIVORCE RATES FOR COUNTIES: NORTH CAROLINA, 1975



5. SUMMARY

A total of 42,310 marriages were performed in North Carolina during 1975, with the median ages of brides and grooms at first marriage being 20.2 and 22.1 years respectively. The median age for brides increased by one-half year while that for grooms was almost unchanged over the period 1965-1975. The median age at remarriage for both bride and groom has moved steadily downward over the period, dropping 3.2 years for brides to 30.2 years of age and decreasing 3.8 years for grooms to 34.1 years of age.

Marriages between single men and single women represented 62 percent of all marriages during 1975, compared to more than 78 percent in 1965. Over one-third of all marriages during 1975 involved at least one divorced partner compared to only 18 percent during the mid-sixties.

First marriages involve brides and grooms with some college education more often than do remarriages. This was true in both 1968 and 1975. Only 2 percent of total marriages involved brides and grooms who had not attended high school.

A total of 423 interracial marriages were reported during 1975, representing one percent of all marriages performed in North Carolina.

Death is still the major cause for dissolutions of marriages, but it is rapidly giving way to divorce as the major cause. While death accounted for 51 percent of dissolutions in 1975, it represented 64 percent in 1968.

The number of divorces and annulments granted in North Carolina during 1975 was 22,107, a record high. This was an increase of 98 percent over the total for 1965.

Since two persons are involved in each divorce case, a total of 44,214 persons were divorced in 1975. These persons had a total of 23,147 minor children, meaning that 67,361 persons were intimately involved in North Carolina divorce cases in 1975. This yields a rate of 12.4 persons per 1,000 population compared to only 7.3 per 1,000 population in 1965.

Also during 1975, a total of 23,100 families were broken by death of a spouse in North Carolina. Adding this figure to the 22,107 divorces gives a total 45,207 families broken by death and judicial decree.

APPENDIX A

SOURCES OF DATA

Vital statistics records of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources are the primary source of data presented in this report. These records include certificates of registry of marriage and reports of final decree of divorce and annulment. Population bases for rates are applicable to July 1 of each of the years 1965-1975. Methodologies for the annual bases are as follows:

1965-1969:	Straight-line interpolations of the 1960 and 1970 censuses specific for race, sex and 10-year age categories;
1970:	Straight-line extrapolations of the 1960 and 1970 censuses specific for race, sex and 10-year age categories, i.e., the April 1, 1970 census counts advanced to July 1, 1970;
1971-1975:	Modified ratio-projections based on the 1960 and 1970 census specific for race, sex and 5-year age categories with county projections subsequently adjusted to sum to independent county estimates.

The 1971-1975 population bases were provided by the Office of State Planning of the North Carolina Department of Administration.

The North Carolina certificate of registry of marriage has been revised periodically, most recently in 1971. Figures A-1 through A-4 show the different revisions of the certificate from which data were obtained for this report.

Data on divorces and annulments were obtained from the Monthly Report of Divorces Granted shown in Figure A-5.

FIGURE A-1

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

(1962 Revision)

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

State of North Carolina

LICENSE NUMBER _____ COUNTY _____

GROOM	BRIDE
1. FULL NAME	11. FULL NAME
2. PERMANENT ADDRESS — STREET ADDRESS OR ROUTE & BOX NUMBER	12. PERMANENT ADDRESS — STREET ADDRESS OR ROUTE & BOX NUMBER
CITY / COUNTY / STATE	CITY / COUNTY / STATE
3. RACE / 4. BIRTHDATE / 5. BIRTHPLACE (COUNTY & STATE)	13. RACE / 14. BIRTHDATE / 15. BIRTHPLACE (COUNTY & STATE)
6. NEVER MARRIED ☐ WIDOWED ☐ DIVORCED ☐	16. NEVER MARRIED ☐ WIDOWED ☐ DIVORCED ☐
7. NO. TIMES PREVIOUSLY MARRIED: _____	17. NO. TIMES PREVIOUSLY MARRIED: _____
8. FATHER'S FULL NAME: LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐	18. FATHER'S FULL NAME: LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐
9. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐	19. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: LIVING ☐ DEAD ☐
10. ADDRESS OF PARENT(S):	20. ADDRESS OF PARENT(S):

To any ordained minister of any religious denomination, minister authorized by his church, or any Justice of the Peace of said county: you are hereby authorized, at any time within 60 days from the date hereof, to celebrate the proposed marriage at any place within the said county.

DATE ISSUED _____ REGISTER OF DEEDS _____ (DEPUTY/ASSISTANT)

I, _____ (NAME), a _____ (MINISTER OR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE), united in matrimony _____ (GROOM) and _____ (BRIDE), the parties licensed above, on _____ (DATE) at _____ (PLACE) in _____ (CITY OR TOWNSHIP) in said county according to law.

SIGNATURE OF WITNESSES TO MARRIAGE:

_____ SIGNATURE OF OFFICIATING OFFICER

_____ ADDRESS _____

_____ ADDRESS _____

_____ ADDRESS _____

The minister or other person celebrating this marriage is required within 30 days to fill out and sign both copies of this Certificate of Marriage, and return them to the Register of Deeds who issued the license. Failure to do so constitutes a misdemeanor and also subjects person celebrating the marriage to a forfeiture of $200.00 to anyone who sues for the same.

REGISTER OF DEEDS: ENTER DATE THIS FORM RETURNED TO YOU

_____ DATE

FORM VS-80
1/1/62
1/62-100M
ALLIED BUSY BUSINESS SYSTEMS

REGISTER OF DEEDS COPY

FIGURE A-2

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

(1968 Revision)

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

State of North Carolina

LICENSE NUMBER _____ COUNTY _____

GROOM

GROOM—NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST
1.			

RESIDENCE—STATE	COUNTY	CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION	INSIDE CITY LIMITS (Specify Yes Or No)
2a.	2b.	2c.	2d.

STREET AND NUMBER	STATE OF BIRTH (If Not In U.S.A., Name Country)	DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)	AGE
2e.	3.	4a.	4b.

FATHER—NAME	STATE OF BIRTH (If Not In U.S.A., Name Country)	MOTHER—MAIDEN NAME	STATE OF BIRTH (If Not In U.S.A., Name Country)
5a.	5b.	6a.	6b.

RACE—GROOM	NUMBER OF THIS MARRIAGE FIRST, SECOND, ETC. (SPECIFY)	IF PREVIOUSLY MARRIED: LAST MARRIAGE ENDED BY (Death, Divorce, Or Annulment (Specify))	IF PREVIOUSLY MARRIED: DATE MONTH YEAR	EDUCATION—SPECIFY HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED: ELEMENTARY (0,1,2,3,4, . . . or 8)	HIGH SCHOOL (1,2,3, or 4)	COLLEGE (1,2,3,4, or 5)
7.	8.	9a.	9b.	10.		

BRIDE

BRIDE—NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST	MAIDEN NAME (If Different)
11a.				11b.

RESIDENCE—STATE	COUNTY	CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION	INSIDE CITY LIMITS (Specify Yes or No)
12a.	12b.	12c.	12d.

STREET AND NUMBER	STATE OF BIRTH (If Not In U.S.A., Name Country)	DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)	AGE
12e.	13.	14a.	14b.

FATHER—NAME	STATE OF BIRTH (If Not In U.S.A., Name Country)	MOTHER—MAIDEN NAME	STATE OF BIRTH (If Not In U.S.A., Name Country)
15a.	15b.	16a.	16b.

RACE—BRIDE	NUMBER OF THIS MARRIAGE FIRST, SECOND, ETC. (SPECIFY)	IF PREVIOUSLY MARRIED: LAST MARRIAGE ENDED BY (Death, Divorce, or Annulment (Specify))	IF PREVIOUSLY MARRIED: DATE MONTH YEAR	EDUCATION—SPECIFY HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED: ELEMENTARY (0,1,2,3,4, . . . or 8)	HIGH SCHOOL (1,2,3, or 4)	COLLEGE (1,2,3,4, or 5)
17.	18.	19a.	19b.	20.		

GROOM—PARENT'S ADDRESS	BRIDE—PARENT'S ADDRESS
21.	22.

To any ordained minister of any religious denomination, minister authorized by his church, or any Justice of the Peace or Magistrate, you are hereby authorized, at any time within 60 days from the date hereof, to celebrate the proposed marriage at any place within the said county.

DATE ISSUED _____ REGISTER OF DEEDS _____ (DEPUTY/ASSISTANT) _____

OFFICIANT

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE NAMED PERSONS WERE MARRIED ON: MONTH DAY YEAR	PLACE OF MARRIAGE—COUNTY	STATE
15a.	15b.	15c.

OFFICIANT—SIGNATURE	DATE SIGNED (MONTH,DAY,YEAR)	OFFICIANT—Religious or Civil (Specify)
15d.	15e.	15f.

WITNESS—SIGNATURE	WITNESS—SIGNATURE
16a.	16b.

The minister or other person celebrating this marriage is required within 10 days to fill out and sign both copies of this Certificate of Marriage, and return them to the Register of Deeds who issued the license. Failure to do so constitutes a misdemeanor and also subjects person celebrating the marriage to a forfeiture of $200.00 to anyone who sues for the same.

RETURNED TO REGISTER OF DEEDS:

_____
DATE

_____
REGISTER OF DEEDS/DEPUTY OR ASSISTANT

FORM VS-60
REV. 1/1/68
1/68-100M

REGISTER OF DEEDS COPY

FIGURE A-3

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

(1969 Revision)

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

State of North Carolina

LICENSE NUMBER _____ COUNTY _____

GROOM

GROOM-NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST
1.			

RESIDENCE-STATE	COUNTY	CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION	INSIDE CITY LIMITS (Specify Yes Or No)
2a.	2b.	2c.	2d.

STREET AND NUMBER	BIRTHPLACE (COUNTY & STATE)	DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)	AGE
2e.	3.	4a.	4b.

FATHER-NAME	STATE OF BIRTH	ADDRESS (If Living)
5a.	5b.	5c.

MOTHER-MAIDEN NAME	STATE OF BIRTH	ADDRESS (If Living)
6a.	6b.	6c.

RACE-GROOM	NUMBER OF THIS MARRIAGE FIRST, SECOND, ETC. (SPECIFY)	IF PREVIOUSLY MARRIED		EDUCATION-SPECIFY HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED		
		LAST MARRIAGE ENDED BY _____ Death, Divorce, Or Annulment (Specify)	DATE MONTH YEAR	ELEMENTARY (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, . . . or 8)	HIGH SCHOOL (1, 2, 3, or 4)	COLLEGE (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5)
7.	8.	9a.	9b.	10.		

BRIDE

BRIDE-NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST	MAIDEN SURNAME (If Different)
11a.				11b.

RESIDENCE-STATE	COUNTY	CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION	INSIDE CITY LIMITS (Specify Yes Or No)
12a.	12b.	12c.	12d.

STREET AND NUMBER	BIRTHPLACE (COUNTY & STATE)	DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)	AGE
12e.	13.	14a.	14b.

FATHER-NAME	STATE OF BIRTH	ADDRESS (If Living)
15a.	15b.	15c.

MOTHER-MAIDEN NAME	STATE OF BIRTH	ADDRESS (If Living)
16a.	16b.	16c.

RACE-BRIDE	NUMBER OF THIS MARRIAGE FIRST, SECOND, ETC. (SPECIFY)	IF PREVIOUSLY MARRIED		EDUCATION-SPECIFY HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED		
		LAST MARRIAGE ENDED BY _____ Death, Divorce, Or Annulment (Specify)	DATE MONTH YEAR	ELEMENTARY (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, . . . or 8)	HIGH SCHOOL (1, 2, 3, or 4)	COLLEGE (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5)
17.	18.	19a.	19b.	20.		

DATE ISSUED _____ REGISTER OF DEEDS _____ (DEPUTY/ASSISTANT)

To any ordained minister of any religious denomination, minister authorized by his church, or any Justice of the Peace or Magistrate, you are hereby authorized, at any time within 60 days from the date hereof, to celebrate the proposed marriage at any place within the above named county.

OFFICIANT

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE NAMED PERSONS WERE MARRIED ON: MONTH DAY YEAR	PLACE OF MARRIAGE-CITY, TOWN, OR TOWNSHIP, COUNTY
21a.	21b.

OFFICIANT SIGNATURE	TITLE	ADDRESS
21c.	21d.	21e.

WITNESSES

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS	SIGNATURE OF WITNESS
22a.	23a.
NAME OF WITNESS (Please Print)	NAME OF WITNESS (Please Print)
22b.	23b.
ADDRESS	ADDRESS
22c.	23c.

The minister or other person celebrating this marriage is required within 10 days to fill out and sign both copies of this Certificate of Marriage, and return them to the Register of Deeds who issued the license. Failure to do so subjects person celebrating the marriage to a forfeiture of $200.00 to anyone who sues for the same.

DATE RETURNED TO REGISTER OF DEEDS:

RECEIVED BY:

FORM VS-80
REV. 1/1/69

REGISTER OF DEEDS COPY

FIGURE A-4

APPLICATION, LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

(1971 Revision)

APPLICATION, LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

State of North Carolina

LICENSE NUMBER _____ COUNTY _____

GROOM

GROOM NAME (1) FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST

RESIDENCE STATE (2a)	COUNTY (2b)	CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION (2c)	INSIDE CITY LIMITS (Specify Yes Or No) (2d)

STREET AND NUMBER (2e)	BIRTHPLACE (COUNTY & STATE) (3)	DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year) (4a)	AGE (4b)

FATHER NAME (5a)	STATE OF BIRTH (5b)	ADDRESS (If Living) (5c)

MOTHER MAIDEN NAME (6a)	STATE OF BIRTH (6b)	ADDRESS (If Living) (6c)

RACE GROOM (7)	NUMBER OF THIS MARRIAGE FIRST, SECOND ETC (SPECIFY) (8)	IF PREVIOUSLY MARRIED: LAST MARRIAGE ENDED BY _____ Death, Divorce, Or Annulment (Specify) (9a)	DATE: MONTH YEAR (9b)	EDUCATION: SPECIFY HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED: ELEMENTARY (0,1,2,3,4, or 8) (10)	HIGH SCHOOL (1, 2, 3, or 4)	COLLEGE (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5)

BRIDE

BRIDE NAME (11a) FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST	MAIDEN SURNAME (If Different) (11b)

RESIDENCE STATE (12a)	COUNTY (12b)	CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION (12c)	INSIDE CITY LIMITS (Specify Yes Or No) (12d)

STREET AND NUMBER (12e)	BIRTHPLACE (COUNTY & STATE) (13)	DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year) (14a)	AGE (14b)

FATHER NAME (15a)	STATE OF BIRTH (15b)	ADDRESS (If Living) (15c)

MOTHER MAIDEN NAME (16a)	STATE OF BIRTH (16b)	ADDRESS (If Living) (16c)

RACE BRIDE (17)	NUMBER OF THIS MARRIAGE FIRST, SECOND ETC (SPECIFY) (18)	IF PREVIOUSLY MARRIED: LAST MARRIAGE ENDED BY _____ Death, Divorce, Or Annulment (Specify) (19a)	DATE: MONTH YEAR (19b)	EDUCATION: SPECIFY HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED: ELEMENTARY (0,1,2,3,4, or 8) (20)	HIGH SCHOOL (1, 2, 3, or 4)	COLLEGE (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5)

WE HEREBY MAKE APPLICATION TO THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR A MARRIAGE LICENSE AND SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT ALL OF THE STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE APPLICATION ARE TRUE. WE FURTHER MAKE OATH THAT THERE IS NO LEGAL IMPEDIMENT TO SUCH MARRIAGE

_____ SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME

SIGNATURE OF GROOM THIS _____ 19 _____

_____ _____

SIGNATURE OF BRIDE REGISTER OF DEEDS DEPUTY ASSISTANT

To any ordained minister of any religious denomination, minister authorized by his church, or Magistrate: you are hereby authorized, at any time within 60 days from the date hereof, to celebrate the proposed marriage at any place within the above named county. The minister or other person celebrating this marriage is required within 10 days to fill out and sign both copies of this Certificate of Marriage, and return them to the Register of Deeds who issued the license. Failure to do so subjects person celebrating the marriage to a forfeiture of $200.00 to anyone who sues for the same.

_____ _____

DATE ISSUED REGISTER OF DEEDS (DEPUTY ASSISTANT)

OFFICIANT

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE NAMED PERSONS WERE MARRIED ON: MONTH DAY YEAR (21a)	PLACE OF MARRIAGE CITY, TOWN, OR TOWNSHIP, COUNTY (21b)

OFFICIANT SIGNATURE (21c)	TITLE (21d)	ADDRESS (21e)

WITNESSES

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS (22a)	SIGNATURE OF WITNESS (23a)

DATE RETURNED TO REGISTER OF DEEDS _____ RECEIVED BY _____

REV. 1971

REGISTER OF DEEDS COPY

FIGURE A-5

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

MONTHLY REPORT OF DIVORCES GRANTED

REPORT FOR MONTH OF _____ 19__

_____ COUNTY

NAME OF PLAINTIFF	RESIDENCE COUNTY OR STATE	RACE	NAME OF DEFENDANT	RESIDENCE COUNTY OR STATE	TYPE DIVORCE (CHECK ONE)		GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE		Decree Absolute Cancelled	DATE OF DECREE	JUDGMENT DOCKET NUMBER
					ABS	ANNUL	1 YR SEP.	OTHER (SPECIFY BELOW)			
1.											
2.											
3.											
4.											
5.											
6.											
7.											
8.											
9.											
10.											
11.											
12.											
13.											
14.											
15.											
16.											
17.											
18.											
19.											
20.											

Form VS-70

(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR CERTIFICATION AND INSTRUCTIONS)

FIGURE A-5

(Reversed Side)

A. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS:

Chapter 983 of the 1957 Sessions Laws specifies:

Section 1. *On or before the fifteenth day of each month the Clerks of the Superior Courts of this State and the clerks of all other courts authorized by law to grant divorces or annulments of marriage shall transmit to the Office of Vital Statistics of the State Board of Health in Raleigh, on forms prescribed and furnished by it, a record of each and every decree of divorce or annulment granted by the said courts during the preceding calendar month, giving the names of the parties and such other data as may be required by such forms. The sum of one dollar ($1.00) shall be taxed as a part of the costs in the cause in which the decree of divorce or annulment is granted and the same shall be collected by the clerk of the court as costs. With each monthly report, the clerk shall also transmit to the Office of Vital Statistics one half of the cost above provided for, to be used to recompense the State partially for the expense of filing and keeping such records. Upon request, the Office of Vital Statistics shall furnish a true copy of any such record, which may be, but is not required to be, photographic, upon the payment to the office of a fee of one dollar ($1.00), and such true copy shall be competent evidence in any court or other proceeding in this State with like force and effect as the original. The moneys received by the office pursuant to this Act shall be turned over to the State Treasurer and paid into the General Fund of the State. The Office of Vital Statistics is hereby authorized and empowered to do all things necessary to implement and carry out the provisions of this Act.*

Sec. 2. *All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.*

Sec. 3. *This Act shall be in full force and effect from and after January 1, 1958.*

B. INSTRUCTIONS:

1. On or before the fifteenth of each month, transmit to the Office of Vital Statistics the "Monthly Report of Divorces Granted", (Form VS-70), for the preceding month. For auditing purposes, please complete also the card, "Monthly Summary Report of Divorces Granted", (Form V.S.-71), and mail to this office.
2. With each monthly report, please transmit by check the 50¢ fee for each divorce or annulment reported.
3. Please complete the certification statement below.

C. CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:

I, _____, *Clerk of the* _____
(Full title of Court)

of _____ *County, certify that this report is a correct statement of*

the divorces and annulments granted in said court for the month of _____, *19*____.

This report consists of _____ *page(s).*

Given under my hand and official seal this _____ *day of* _____ *19*____

_____
Clerk

APPENDIX B

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TABLE 1

MARRIAGES, DIVORCES AND ANNULMENTS BY COUNTY OF OCCURRENCE WITH RATES PER 1,000 RESIDENT POPULATION:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

County of Occurrence	Marriages		Divorces & Annulments	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
North Carolina	42,310	7.8	22,107	4.1
Alamance	786	7.9	423	4.3
Alexander	168	7.7	72	3.3
Alleghany	573	66.2	35	4.0
Anson	90	3.7	71	3.0
Ashe	176	8.8	51	2.5
Avery	127	9.0	32	2.3
Beaufort	396	10.5	128	3.4
Bertie	199	9.5	45	2.2
Bladen	117	4.1	54	1.9
Brunswick	125	3.8	80	2.5
Buncombe	1,256	8.3	805	5.3
Burke	404	6.2	320	4.9
Cabarrus	509	6.4	326	4.1
Caldwell	512	8.4	254	4.2
Camden	27	4.8	5	0.9
Carteret	408	11.4	150	4.2
Caswell	135	6.9	53	2.7
Catawba	648	6.5	499	5.0
Chatham	204	6.7	111	3.7
Cherokee	236	13.8	64	3.8
Chowan	77	6.8	44	3.9
Clay	37	6.6	11	2.0
Cleveland	334	4.3	290	3.7
Columbus	229	4.6	175	3.5
Craven	672	9.8	309	4.5
Cumberland	1,325	5.7	1,034	4.4
Currituck	48	4.8	34	3.4
Dare	89	9.7	40	4.4
Davidson	709	7.0	406	4.0
Davie	142	6.8	64	3.0
Duplin	258	6.4	84	2.1
Durham	1,106	7.9	668	4.7
Edgecombe	445	8.3	167	3.1
Forsyth	1,845	8.2	1,070	4.7
Franklin	239	8.4	87	3.1
Gaston	654	4.2	787	5.0
Gates	55	6.7	17	2.1
Graham	79	12.2	12	1.8
Granville	262	8.0	83	2.5
Greene	126	8.3	25	1.6
Guilford	2,673	8.9	1,612	5.4
Halifax	462	8.4	147	2.7
Harnett	299	5.6	206	3.8
Haywood	415	9.4	163	3.7
Henderson	345	7.0	175	3.6
Hertford	146	6.2	74	3.1

TABLE 1 (CONTINUED)

County of Occurrence	Marriages		Divorces & Annulments	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Hoke	58	3.3	29	1.7
Hyde	53	9.7	9	1.6
Iredell	560	7.1	267	3.4
Jackson	207	8.5	61	2.5
Johnston	521	7.9	240	3.7
Jones	77	8.1	49	5.1
Lee	220	6.5	149	4.4
Lenoir	509	8.8	221	3.8
Lincoln	206	5.5	181	4.9
McDowell	218	6.5	97	2.9
Macon	152	8.3	34	1.9
Madison	119	7.1	23	1.4
Martin	238	9.6	66	2.7
Mecklenburg	2,052	5.5	1,978	5.3
Mitchell	143	10.2	13	0.9
Montgomery	96	4.8	45	2.3
Moore	254	6.0	131	3.1
Nash	616	9.5	299	4.6
New Hanover	696	7.3	512	5.3
Northampton	96	4.2	31	1.3
Onslow	1,200	11.8	373	3.7
Orange	476	6.9	256	3.7
Pamlico	72	7.7	20	2.1
Pasquotank	2,233	80.8	122	4.4
Pender	164	7.9	51	2.5
Perquimans	54	6.4	9	1.1
Person	243	9.1	95	3.5
Pitt	702	9.0	284	3.6
Polk	58	4.6	18	1.4
Randolph	539	6.6	249	3.0
Richmond	183	4.5	169	4.1
Robeson	257	2.7	286	3.1
Rockingham	889	11.5	347	4.5
Rowan	708	7.6	331	3.5
Rutherford	224	4.5	220	4.4
Sampson	281	5.8	101	2.1
Scotland	101	3.4	94	3.1
Stanly	276	6.2	145	3.2
Stokes	206	7.2	67	2.3
Surry	525	9.5	231	4.2
Swain	217	22.5	30	3.1
Transylvania	117	5.5	74	3.5
Tyrrell	36	8.9	8	2.0
Union	280	4.5	186	3.0
Vance	305	9.1	132	3.9
Wake	1,883	7.1	1,371	5.2
Warren	175	10.5	38	2.3
Washington	108	7.6	26	1.8
Watauga	256	8.9	87	3.0
Wayne	788	8.8	394	4.4
Wilkes	428	7.9	178	3.3
Wilson	547	9.1	193	3.2
Yadkin	223	8.4	87	3.3
Yancey	298	21.5	38	2.7

TABLE 2

MARRIAGES BY AGE OF BRIDE BY AGE OF GROOM:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Age of Groom	Age of Bride									
	<15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 & Over	Total
<15	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
15-19	53	5,869	930	90	18	8	0	0	0	6,968
20-24	16	7,596	8,578	1,063	178	73	8	1	0	17,513
25-29	3	1,061	3,819	2,409	526	182	12	2	0	8,014
30-34	2	158	856	1,165	702	345	28	2	0	3,258
35-44	0	60	287	624	739	1,004	217	20	1	2,952
45-54	0	11	36	128	192	676	676	112	10	1,841
55-64	0	2	6	15	30	147	426	336	55	1,017
65 & Over	0	2	1	4	5	27	132	311	263	745
TOTAL	74	14,760	14,514	5,498	2,390	2,462	1,499	784	329	42,310

TABLE 3

MARRIAGES BY AGE OF BRIDE BY AGE OF GROOM:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1965

Age of Groom	Age of Bride										Total
	<15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 & Over	Not Stated	
<15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
15-19	46	8,275	1,077	54	14	4	2	0	0	0	9,472
20-24	21	10,337	8,027	600	109	40	7	0	1	0	19,142
25-29	2	1,098	2,792	1,131	259	91	11	1	0	0	5,385
30-34	0	155	598	623	375	219	29	2	0	0	2,001
35-44	0	76	244	425	471	810	205	11	0	3	2,245
45-54	0	10	38	61	101	520	401	64	2	0	1,197
55-64	0	2	9	9	18	113	316	206	18	0	691
65 & Over	0	0	0	2	3	24	117	222	165	0	533
TOTAL	70	19,953	12,785	2,905	1,350	1,821	1,088	506	186	3	40,667

TABLE 4

AGE OF BRIDE AND GROOM BY MARRIAGE ORDER:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Age of Bride	Marriage Order					Total
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth or More	
<15	74	0	0	0	0	74
15-19	14,385	374	1	0	0	14,760
20-24	12,098	2,322	91	3	0	14,514
25-29	2,587	2,641	249	20	1	5,498
30-34	582	1,541	241	23	3	2,390
35-44	341	1,748	338	30	5	2,462
45-54	141	1,092	235	27	4	1,499
55-64	70	570	125	18	1	784
65 & Over	20	212	77	17	3	329
TOTAL	30,298	10,500	1,357	138	17	42,310
Age of Groom						
<15	2	0	0	0	0	2
15-19	6,916	51	1	0	0	6,968
20-24	16,153	1,331	28	1	0	17,513
25-29	5,157	2,671	177	9	0	8,014
30-34	1,064	1,917	255	22	0	3,258
35-44	560	2,000	347	40	5	2,952
45-54	205	1,300	291	37	8	1,841
55-64	81	749	161	24	2	1,017
65 & Over	29	531	154	25	6	745
TOTAL	30,167	10,550	1,414	158	21	42,310

TABLE 5

AGE OF BRIDE AND GROOM BY PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Age of Bride	Previous Marital Status				Total
	Never Married	Widowed	Divorced	Not Stated	
<15					
Number	74	0	0	0	74
Percent	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
15-19					
Number	14,383	10	365	2	14,760
Percent	34.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	34.9
20-24					
Number	12,097	73	2,342	2	14,514
Percent	28.6	0.2	5.5	0.0	34.3
25-29					
Number	2,586	157	2,752	3	5,498
Percent	6.1	0.4	6.5	0.0	13.0
30-34					
Number	582	142	1,664	2	2,390
Percent	1.4	0.3	3.9	0.0	5.6
35-44					
Number	341	358	1,759	4	2,462
Percent	0.8	0.8	4.2	0.0	5.8
45-54					
Number	141	612	746	0	1,499
Percent	0.3	1.4	1.8	0.0	3.5
55-64					
Number	70	554	160	0	784
Percent	0.2	1.3	0.4	0.0	1.9
65 & Over					
Number	20	278	30	1	329
Percent	0.0	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.8
Total					
Number	30,294	2,184	9,818	14	42,310
Percent	71.6	5.2	23.2	0.0	100.0

TABLE 5 (CONTINUED)

Age of Groom	Previous Marital Status				Total
	Never Married	Widowed	Divorced	Not Stated	
<15					
Number	2	0	0	0	2
Percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
15-19					
Number	6,916	0	52	0	6,968
Percent	16.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	16.5
20-24					
Number	16,155	17	1,340	1	17,513
Percent	38.2	0.0	3.2	0.0	41.4
25-29					
Number	5,157	38	2,818	1	8,014
Percent	12.2	0.1	6.7	0.0	18.9
30-34					
Number	1,064	66	2,127	1	3,258
Percent	2.5	0.2	5.0	0.0	7.7
35-44					
Number	560	190	2,201	1	2,952
Percent	1.3	0.4	5.2	0.0	7.0
45-54					
Number	205	388	1,246	2	1,841
Percent	0.5	0.9	2.9	0.0	4.4
55-64					
Number	81	509	427	0	1,017
Percent	0.2	1.2	1.0	0.0	2.4
65 & Over					
Number	29	603	113	0	745
Percent	0.1	1.4	0.3	0.0	1.8
Total					
Number	30,169	1,811	10,324	6	42,310
Percent	71.3	4.3	24.4	0.0	100.0

TABLE 6

MARRIAGES BY EDUCATION OF BRIDE BY EDUCATION OF GROOM:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Education of Groom	Education of Bride				Total
	None or Elementary	High School	College	Not Stated	
None or Elementary					
Number	861	1,922	166	31	2,980
Percent	2.0	4.5	0.4	0.1	7.0
High School					
Number	1,005	19,869	3,793	68	24,735
Percent	2.4	47.0	9.0	0.2	58.5
College					
Number	97	4,821	9,389	32	14,339
Percent	0.2	11.4	22.2	0.1	33.9
Not Stated					
Number	19	36	8	193	256
Percent	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.6
Total					
Number	1,982	26,648	13,356	324	42,310
Percent	4.7	63.0	31.6	0.8	100.0

TABLE 7

EDUCATION OF BRIDE AND GROOM BY PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Education of Bride	Previous Marital Status				Total
	Never Married	Widowed	Divorced	Not Stated	
None or Elementary					
Number	769	544	677	2	1,982
Percent	1.8	1.3	1.6	0.0	4.7
High School					
Number	18,810	1,191	6,638	9	26,648
Percent	44.5	2.8	15.7	0.0	63.0
College					
Number	10,559	386	2,410	1	13,356
Percent	25.0	0.9	5.7	0.0	31.6
Not Stated					
Number	156	63	103	2	324
Percent	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.8
Total					
Number	30,294	2,184	9,818	14	42,310
Percent	71.6	5.2	23.2	0.0	100.0
Education of Groom					
None or Elementary					
Number	1,183	667	1,130	0	2,980
Percent	2.8	1.6	2.7	0.0	7.0
High School					
Number	18,206	726	5,799	4	24,735
Percent	43.0	1.7	13.7	0.0	58.5
College					
Number	10,643	351	3,344	1	14,339
Percent	25.2	0.8	7.9	0.0	33.9
Not Stated					
Number	137	67	51	1	256
Percent	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.6
Total					
Number	30,169	1,811	10,324	6	42,310
Percent	71.3	4.3	24.4	0.0	100.0

TABLE 8

EDUCATION OF BRIDE AND GROOM BY MARRIAGE ORDER:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Education of Bride	Marriage Order					Total
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth or More	
None or Elementary						
Number	770	964	203	38	7	1,982
Percent	1.8	2.3	0.5	0.1	0.0	4.7
High School						
Number	18,812	6,854	894	80	8	26,648
Percent	44.5	16.2	2.1	0.2	0.0	63.0
College						
Number	10,560	2,546	232	17	1	13,356
Percent	25.0	6.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	31.6
Not Stated						
Number	156	136	28	3	1	324
Percent	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.8
Total						
Number	30,298	10,500	1,357	138	17	42,310
Percent	71.6	24.8	3.2	0.3	0.0	100.0
Education of Groom						
None or Elementary						
Number	1,183	1,470	284	38	5	2,980
Percent	2.8	3.5	0.7	0.1	0.0	7.0
High School						
Number	18,204	5,701	747	72	11	24,735
Percent	43.0	13.5	1.8	0.2	0.0	58.5
College						
Number	10,643	3,279	366	46	5	14,339
Percent	25.2	7.7	0.9	0.1	0.0	33.9
Not Stated						
Number	137	100	17	2	0	256
Percent	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Total						
Number	30,167	10,550	1,414	158	21	42,310
Percent	71.3	24.9	3.3	0.4	0.0	100.0

TABLE 9

MARRIAGE ORDER OF BRIDE BY MARRIAGE ORDER OF GROOM:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Groom	Bride					
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth or More	Total
First						
Number	26,230	3,679	233	24	1	30,167
Percent	62.0	8.7	0.6	0.1	0.0	71.3
Second						
Number	3,789	5,882	802	67	10	10,550
Percent	9.0	13.9	1.9	0.2	0.0	24.9
Third						
Number	247	847	286	31	3	1,414
Percent	0.6	2.0	0.7	0.1	0.0	3.3
Fourth						
Number	30	81	32	12	3	158
Percent	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4
Fifth or More						
Number	2	11	4	4	0	21
Percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total						
Number	30,298	10,500	1,357	138	17	42,310
Percent	71.6	24.8	3.2	0.3	0.0	100.0

TABLE 10

MARRIAGE ORDER OF BRIDE BY MARRIAGE ORDER OF GROOM:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1965

Groom	Bride					Total
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth or More	
First						
Number	31,765	2,437	127	8	1	34,338
Percent	78.1	6.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	84.4
Second						
Number	2,182	3,207	337	34	1	5,761
Percent	5.4	7.9	0.8	0.1	0.0	14.2
Third						
Number	81	297	98	15	0	491
Percent	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.2
Fourth						
Number	10	43	9	5	2	69
Percent	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Fifth or More						
Number	0	4	4	0	0	8
Percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total						
Number	34,038	5,988	575	62	4	40,667
Percent	83.7	14.7	1.4	0.2	0.0	100.0

TABLE 11

PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS OF BRIDE
BY PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS OF GROOM:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Groom	Bride				
	Never Married	Widowed	Divorced	Not Stated	Total
Never Married					
Number	26,229	357	3,578	5	30,169
Percent	62.0	0.8	8.5	0.0	71.3
Widowed					
Number	252	980	579	0	1,811
Percent	0.6	2.3	1.4	0.0	4.3
Divorced					
Number	3,813	846	5,659	6	10,324
Percent	9.0	2.0	13.4	0.0	24.4
Not Stated					
Number	0	1	2	3	6
Percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total					
Number	30,294	2,184	9,918	14	42,310
Percent	71.6	5.2	23.2	0.0	100.0

TABLE 12

PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS OF BRIDE
BY PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS OF GROOM:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1965

Groom	Bride			
	Never Married	Widowed	Divorced	Total
Never Married				
Number	31,763	428	2,122	34,313
Percent	78.5	1.1	5.2	84.8
Widowed				
Number	299	782	334	1,415
Percent	0.7	1.9	0.8	3.5
Divorced				
Number	1,962	556	2,206	4,724
Percent	4.9	1.4	5.5	11.7
Total				
Number	34,024	1,766	4,662	40,452*
Percent	84.1	4.4	11.5	100.0

*Excludes 215 marriages with previous marital status of either bride or groom not stated.

TABLE 13

DIVORCES BY RACE OF PLAINTIFF AND GROUNDS:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Race of Plaintiff	Grounds						Total
	One-Year Separation	Adultery	Bigamy	Insanity	Impotency	Other	
White							
Number	17,988	36	12	1	5	95	18,137
Percent	81.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	82.0
Black							
Number	3,500	2	5	0	0	14	3,521
Percent	15.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	15.9
American Indian							
Number	117	0	0	0	0	4	121
Percent	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Other Races							
Number	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not Stated							
Number	324	1	1	0	0	0	326
Percent	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5
Total							
Number	21,931	39	18	1	5	113	22,107
Percent	99.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	100.0

TABLE 14

DIVORCES BY RACE OF PLAINTIFF AND GROUNDS:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1965

Race of Plaintiff	Grounds						Total
	One-Year Separation*	Adultery	Bigamy	Conviction of Crime, Cruelty, Insanity, Desertion & Nonsupport	Impotency	Other and Not Stated	
White							
Number	8,951	141	8	9	7	73	9,189
Percent	80.2	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	82.3
Black							
Number	1,724	15	0	0	0	4	1,743
Percent	15.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.6
American Indian							
Number	35	0	0	0	0	0	35
Percent	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Other Races							
Number	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not Stated							
Number	183	5	0	0	0	2	190
Percent	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
Total							
Number	10,896	161	8	9	7	79	11,160
Percent	97.6	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	100.0

*Prior to July 1, 1965 two years separation was required.

TABLE 15

DIVORCES BY RACE OF PLAINTIFF AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1975

Race of Plaintiff	Number of Children							Total
	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five or More	Not Stated	
White								
Number	7,838	5,031	3,230	1,238	467	217	116	18,137
Percent	35.5	22.8	14.6	5.6	2.1	1.0	0.5	82.0
Nonwhite								
Number	1,410	934	659	285	161	140	55	3,644
Percent	6.4	4.2	3.0	1.3	0.7	0.6	0.2	16.5
Not Stated								
Number	136	74	63	24	13	3	13	326
Percent	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.5
Total								
Number	9,384	6,039	3,952	1,547	641	360	184	22,107
Percent	42.4	27.3	17.9	7.0	2.9	1.6	0.8	100.0

TABLE 16

DIVORCES BY RACE OF PLAINTIFF AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN:

NORTH CAROLINA, 1965

Race of Plaintiff	Number of Children							Total
	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five or More	Not Stated	
White								
Number	3,166	2,394	1,662	843	371	211	542	9,189
Percent	28.4	21.5	14.9	7.6	3.3	1.9	4.9	82.4
Nonwhite								
Number	778	340	273	134	70	70	116	1,781
Percent	7.0	3.0	2.4	1.2	0.6	0.6	1.0	16.0
Not Stated								
Number	59	41	49	16	7	2	16	190
Percent	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.7
Total								
Number	4,003	2,775	1,984	993	448	283	674	11,160
Percent	35.9	24.9	17.8	8.9	4.0	2.5	6.0	100.0

CODES FOR NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES

01	Alamance	26	Cumberland	51	Johnston	76	Randolph
02	Alexander	27	Currituck	52	Jones	77	Richmond
03	Alleghany	28	Dare	53	Lee	78	Robeson
04	Anson	29	Davidson	54	Lenoir	79	Rockingham
05	Ashe	30	Davie	55	Lincoln	80	Rowan
06	Avery	31	Duplin	56	McDowell	81	Rutherford
07	Beaufort	32	Durham	57	Macon	82	Sampson
08	Bertie	33	Edgecombe	58	Madison	83	Scotland
09	Bladen	34	Forsyth	59	Martin	84	Stanly
10	Brunswick	35	Franklin	60	Mecklenburg	85	Stokes
11	Buncombe	36	Gaston	61	Mitchell	86	Surry
12	Burke	37	Gates	62	Montgomery	87	Swain
13	Cabarrus	38	Graham	63	Moore	88	Transylvania
14	Caldwell	39	Granville	64	Nash	89	Tyrrell
15	Camden	40	Greene	65	New Hanover	90	Union
16	Carteret	41	Guilford	66	Northampton	91	Vance
17	Caswell	42	Halifax	67	Onslow	92	Wake
18	Catawba	43	Harnett	68	Orange	93	Warren
19	Chatham	44	Haywood	69	Pamlico	94	Washington
20	Cherokee	45	Henderson	70	Pasquotank	95	Watauga
21	Chowan	46	Hertford	71	Pender	96	Wayne
22	Clay	47	Hoke	72	Perquimans	97	Wilkes
23	Cleveland	48	Hyde	73	Person	98	Wilson
24	Columbus	49	Iredell	74	Pitt	99	Yadkin
25	Craven	50	Jackson	75	Polk	100	Yancey

APPENDIX D

SELECTED REFERENCES

(1) General Statutes of North Carolina, Chapters 50 and 51.

(2) U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service, Health Resources Administration. Monthly Vital Statistics Report: Advance Report Final Marriage Statistics, 1974. Vol. 25, Number 2, Supplement, Rockville, Maryland, May 5, 1976.

(3) U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service, Health Resources Administration. Monthly Vital Statistics Report: Advance Report Final Divorce Statistics, 1974. Vol. 25, Number 1, Supplement, Rockville, Maryland, April 14, 1976.

(4) U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service, Health Resources Administration, National Center for Health Statistics. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Provisional Statistics Annual Summary for the United States, 1974 Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Divorces. Vol. 23, Number 13, Rockville, Maryland, May 30, 1975.

(5) U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service, Health Services and Mental Health Administration, National Center for Health Statistics. Vital and Health Statistics, Marriage Trends and Characteristics, United States. Series 21, Number 21, Rockville, Maryland, September, 1971.

(6) U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service, Health Resources Administration, National Center for Health Statistics. Vital Statistics of the United States, 1970, Volume III. Marriage and Divorce. Rockville, Maryland, 1974.

(7) U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service, Health Resources Administration. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Provisional Statistics, Births, Marriages, Divorces and Deaths for 1975. Vol. 24, Number 12, Rockville, Maryland, March 4, 1976.

(8) North Carolina State Board of Health, Public Health Statistics Section. Test conducted in compliance with procedures of the National Office of Vital Statistics.

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